

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

-- This application claims priority to PCT Application No. PCT/US2003/027034, filed 8/28/2003, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/412,377, filed 9/20/02, both of which are ~~is~~ herein incorporated in their ~~its~~ entirety by reference. --

Please replace paragraph [0036] with the following amended paragraph:

-- Figure 2 illustrates a method for imaging a scene in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. The method is carried out by an imaging system configured with a front lens mounted shutter, where the ~~lens~~ shutter is mounted between the scene and the lens, as shown by the example system of Figure 1. The method begins with closing 205 the front lens mounted shutter so that external scenes are blocked from being imaged. The method continues with generating 210 a closed state image signal that includes internal radiant flux of the system. This closed state image signal can be used to calibrate or otherwise compensate for pixel-to-pixel non-uniformities and offsets between open and closed states. --